

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01013 181954Z

64

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-11

RSC-01 OIC-04 ACDA-19 OMB-01 NIC-01 DPW-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAM-01 DRC-01 /178 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4062

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

JEC DEL PARIS 6680

USUN NEW YORK 71

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DEPT PASS ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, ICRC

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR

REF: STATE 27026

1. SUMMARY: WEO CONSULTATIONS FEB 18 AND STATEMENTS IN MEETING
OF ALL HEADS OF DELEGATION PRESENTLY IN GENEVA SHOW
THAT AFRICAN AND ARAB NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS WILL
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PAGE 02 GENEVA 01013 181954Z

ALMOST CERTAINLY BE INVITED TO CONFERENCE AS OBSERVERS,

NOT, RPT, NOT, AS VOTING PARTICIPATNS, AND THAT CHANCES FOR DEFEATING INVITATION TO PRG AS FULL PARTICIPANT ARE QUITE SLIM. WESTERN EUROPEANS, IN PARTICULAR, ARE RELUCTANT TO SPEAK ON PRG ISSUE AND ARE TENDING TO ABSTENTION, RATHER THAN NEGATIVE VOTE. ACTION REQUESTED: DEMARCHES IN SELECTED WE CAPITALS TO SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS WITH DELS HERE. END SUMMARY.

2. AT WEO CONSULTATIONS FEB 18 WE DISCOVERED GENERAL CONSENSUS TO VOTE AGAINST ANY ATTEMPTS TO ADMIT AFRICAN AND ARAB NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AS FULL PARTICIPANTS WITH RIGHT TO VOTE BUT TO ABSTAIN ON PROPOSALS TO INVITE THEM AS OBSERVERS. CONSIDERABLE OPPOSITION WAS ALSO EXPRESSED TO ANY RIGHT FORTHESE MOVEMENTS TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS TO THE CONFERENCE. AT SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL MEETING OF DELEGATION HEADS, AFRICAN SUPPORTERS OF INVITATION TO THESE MOVEMENTS SAID THEY INTENDED SUBMIT WRITTEN PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF ART. 59 OF PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE TO PROVIDE EXPLICITLY FOR RIGHT OF ATTENDANCE. THEY WERE VAGUE ABOUT VOTING RIGHTS, BUT IMPLICATION SEEMED CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD SETTLE FOR OBSERVER STATUS.

3. ON PRG, THE SITUATION IS GRIM. ONLY UK, GREECE, PORTUGAL, AND BELGIUM WOULD JOIN US IN WEO MEETING IN FIRM COMMITMENT TO NEGATIVE VOTE. APPARENTLY FIRM ABSTENTIONS WERE FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, NORWAY, NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, AND TURKEY. ALL OTHERS WERE UNDECIDED. SOME INDICATED VOTE WOULD DEPEND ON HOW OTHERS VOTED. SPAIN SUGGESTED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION THAT, SINCE IT HAD ABSTAINED IN UNGA ON GUINEA-BISSAU, IT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO ABSTAIN ON PRG, APPARENTLY TO AVOID TREATING US BETTER THAN PORTUGAL.

4. AT INFORMAL MEETING OF DELEGATION HEADS, OUT OF 18 SPEAKERS ONLY U.S., GVN, AND CANADA CLEARLY EXPRESSED DETERMINATION TO VOTE NO IN PRG INVITATION. THOSE WHO SUPPORTED PRG WERE ALL PREDICTABLE PRG BACKERS. PROBLEM IS THAT GVN SUPPORTERS WERE UNWILLING TO TAKE THE FLOOR. COMMENT: WE FACE SERIOUS RISK OF BANDWAGON PSYCHOLOGY DEVELOPING UNLESS WESTERN COUNTRIES ARE WILLING OPPOSE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 01013 181954Z

PRG INVITATION AND TO DO SO PUBLICLY. KEY TIME WILL BE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND THURSDAY WHEN CONFERENCE WILL DEBATE INVITATIONS.

5. ACCORDINGLY, URGE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS DEMARCHES AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL TO URGE OPPOSITION TO PRG INVITATION AND CLEAR CONFERENCE STATEMENTS OF POSITION AT FOLLOWING POSTS: BONN, COPENHAGEN, LONDON, HAGUE, ROME, MADRID, DUBLIN,

VIENNA, VALLETTA, AND ANKARA. DALE

NOTE BY OCT: GENEVA 1013 NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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